IN THE DRAWINGS

Please amend FIG. 7 as shown in the redline version attached hereto, and enter the enclosed replacements sheets for those figures as originally filed.

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REMARKS

Claims 13-24 are pending. Claims 1-12 have been canceled. Claims 13-24 have been added. No new matter has been introduced. Reexamination and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

In the September 20 Office Action, the Examiner objected to the Abstract of the Disclosure for informalities. Applicant has amended the Abstract of Disclosure in view of the Examiner's comments. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the objection should be withdrawn.

The Examiner objected to the title of the invention as being non descriptive. Applicant has amended the title in view of the Examiner's comments. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the objection should be withdrawn.

The Examiner objected to the specification for various informalities. Applicant has amended the specification in view of the Examiner's comments to correct such informalities. The Examiner also indicated that the incorporation by reference of the priority documents in the specification is improper. Applicant respectfully submits that MPEP 201.13 (G) provides that an applicant may incorporate by reference the foreign priority application by including an explicit statement in the specification. Further, as noted in MPEP201.13 G, the inclusion of this statement of incorporation by reference of the foreign priority applications will permit Applicant to amend the specification, for example, to correct translational errors in the U.S. application. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the objections with respect to the specification should be withdrawn.

The Examiner objected to the drawings. Applicant has amended FIGS. 7 as shown in the redline versions enclosed herewith. Applicant has also enclosed replacement sheets for the

aforementioned amended drawing figures in accordance with 37 C. F. R. § 1.84. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the objection should be withdrawn.

The Examiner rejected claim 8-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph as failing to provide enablement.

The Examiner rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Blossom et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,892,521 (hereinafter Blossom) in view of Witzig et al., C. Witzig, S. Adler, E787 Technical Note #264, 1993 (hereinafter Witzig). The Examiner rejected claim 2 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Blossom and Witzig in view of Bromley et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,672,541 (hereinafter Bromley). The Examiner rejected claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Blossom and Witzig in further view of Kitahara et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,634,850 (hereinafter Kitahara). The Examiner rejected claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Blossom, Witzig, and Bromley and further in view of Kitahara. The Examiner rejected claims 6, 8, and 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Blossom in view of Yamashita et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,313,844 and Takahashi, JP 40-3249888A and JP 02-047647. The Examiner rejected claims 7 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Blossom, Yamashita and Takahashi, and further in view of Bromley. The Examiner rejected claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Blossom, Yamashita and Takahashi, and further in view of Kitahara. The Examiner rejected claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Blossom, Yamashita, Takahashi, and Bromley and further in view of Kitahara.

Claims 1 -12 have been canceled. Claims 13-24 have been added. Applicant believes that none of the cited references disclose, teach or suggest the device and method specified in new claims 13-24.

New independent claim 13 recites:

An image processing device comprising:

a first reading device for reading compressed image data, each of which are compressed into blocks in advance, from a memory;

a decoder for decoding the compressed image data in units of blocks so as to decompress image data;

a first storage device that is given a priority in a write operation rather than a read operation and is incapable of simultaneously performing the write operation and the read operation;

a writing device for writing the decompressed image data into the first storage device;

a second reading device for reading the image data from the first storage device;

a second storage device that is given a priority in a read operation rather than a write operation and is incapable of simultaneously performing the read operation and the write operation;

a control device for performing prescribed processing on the image data from the first storage device so as to produce processing image data, which are then written into the second storage device; and

a display device for reading the processing image data from the second storage device, thus displaying an image based on the processed image data, wherein

the first storage device serves as a first-in-first-out memory and is controlled by way of the writing device and the second reading device.

The Blossom reference does not disclose, teach or suggest the device specified in independent claim 13. Unlike the device specified in claim 13, Blossom does not teach a device which includes "***a first reading device for reading compressed image data, each of which are compressed into blocks in advance, from a memory", "a first storage device that is given a priority in a write operation rather than a read operation and is incapable of simultaneously performing the write operation and the read operation", and "a second storage device that is given a priority in a read operation rather than a write operation and is incapable of simultaneously performing the read operation and the write operation."*** Instead Blossom teaches a sprite management system for displaying a plurality of sprites in specified depths with a layered structure. *(Blossom; Col.4, lines 2-7)* The sprite management system includes a microprocessor connected to a display frame composition buffer in system DRAM. THe

microprocessor is programmed to write pixel values of individual sprites to locations in the display frame composition buffer based on the depth coordinate of the sprite. *(Blossom; Col.4, lines 9-47)* However, this is not the same as a device which includes "***a first reading device for reading compressed image data, each of which are compressed into blocks in advance, from a memory", "a first storage device that is given a priority in a write operation rather than a read operation and is incapable of simultaneously performing the write operation and the read operation", and "a second storage device that is given a priority in a read operation rather than a write operation and is incapable of simultaneously performing the read operation and the write operation,"*** as is claimed in claim 13. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 13 distinguishes over the Blossom reference.

The Witzig reference does not make up for the deficiencies of Blossom. Witzig discloses a first in first out (FIFO) buffer system. *(Witzig; page 1)* However, the combination of Blossom and Witzig does not disclose, teach, or suggest a device which includes "***a first reading device for reading compressed image data, each of which are compressed into blocks in advance, from a memory", "a first storage device that is given a priority in a write operation rather than a read operation and is incapable of simultaneously performing the write operation and the read operation", and "a second storage device that is given a priority in a read operation rather than a write operation and is incapable of simultaneously performing the read operation and the write operation."*** Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 13 distinguishes over Blossom in combination with Witzig.

The Bromley reference does not make up for the deficiencies of Blossom and Witzig. Bromley discloses a method of operating a video game system which inserts interactive enlarged playfield displays. *(Bromley; Abstract and Col. 3, lines 12-45)* However, the combination of

Blossom, Witzig, and Bromley does not disclose, teach, or suggest a device which includes "***a first reading device for reading compressed image data, each of which are compressed into blocks in advance, from a memory", "a first storage device that is given a priority in a write operation rather than a read operation and is incapable of simultaneously performing the write operation and the read operation", and "a second storage device that is given a priority in a read operation rather than a write operation and is incapable of simultaneously performing the read operation and the write operation."*** Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 13 distinguishes over Blossom in combination with Witzig and Bromley.

The Kitahara reference does not make up for the deficiencies of Blossom, Witzig, and Bromley. Kitahara discloses an image processing device for superimposing a foreground image and a background image. The image processing device provides for synthesis of foreground data stored in a first memory, background data stored in a second memory and superimposed data stored in a third memory. *(Kitahara; Col. 1, lines 5-9 and Col. 3, 5-35)* However, the combination of Blossom, Witzig, Bromley, and Kitahara does not disclose, teach, or suggest a device which includes "***a first reading device for reading compressed image data, each of which are compressed into blocks in advance, from a memory", "a first storage device that is given a priority in a write operation rather than a read operation and is incapable of simultaneously performing the write operation and the read operation", and "a second storage device that is given a priority in a read operation rather than a write operation and is incapable of simultaneously performing the read operation and the write operation."*** Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 13 distinguishes over Blossom in combination with Witzig, Bromley, and Kitahara.

The Yamashita reference does not make up for the deficiencies of Blossom, Witzig, Bromley, and Kitahara. Yamashita discloses a memory access circuit 404 which synchronizes read and write operations such that the read and write operations are performed in parallel. *(Yamashita; Col 9, lines 5-19)* However, the combination of Blossom, Witzig, Bromley, Kitahara, and Yamashita does not disclose, teach, or suggest a device which includes "***a first reading device for reading compressed image data, each of which are compressed into blocks in advance, from a memory", "a first storage device that is given a priority in a write operation rather than a read operation and is incapable of simultaneously performing the write operation and the read operation", and "a second storage device that is given a priority in a read operation rather than a write operation and is incapable of simultaneously performing the read operation and the write operation."*** Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 13 distinguishes over Blossom in combination with Witzig, Bromley, Kitahara, and Yamashita.

The Takahasi reference does not make up for the deficiencies of Blossom, Witzig, Bromley, Kitahara, and Yamashita. Takahashi discloses an image memory circuit which includes a timing control means for synchronizing read and write timings in an image memory. *(Takahashi;Abstract)* However, the combination of Blossom, Witzig, Bromley, Kitahara, Yamashita, and Takahashi does not disclose, teach, or suggest a device which includes "***a first reading device for reading compressed image data, each of which are compressed into blocks in advance, from a memory", "a first storage device that is given a priority in a write operation rather than a read operation and is incapable of simultaneously performing the write operation and the read operation", and "a second storage device that is given a priority in a read operation rather than a write operation and is incapable of simultaneously performing***

the read operation and the write operation." Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 13 distinguishes over Blossom in combination with Witzig, Bromley, Kitahara, Yamashita, and Takahashi.

Claims 13, 14, 17-19, and 24 recite limitation similar to those in independent claim 13. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 13, 14, 17-19, and 24 distinguish over Blossom in combination with Witzig, Bromley, Kitahara, Yamashita, and Takahashi for reason similar to those set forth above with respect to claim 13.

Claims 15-16 depend from independent claim 13. Claims 20 and 22 depend from claim 18. Claims 21 and 23 depend from independent claim 19. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 15-16, 20, 22, 21 and 23 distinguish over Blossom in combination with Witzig, Bromley, Kitahara, Yamashita, and Takahashi for the same reasons set forth above with respect to claims 13, 18 and 19, respectively.

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Applicant believes that the claims are in condition for allowance. If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles, California telephone number (213) 488-7100 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance should the Examiner believe that such a telephone conference call would advance prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

PILLSBURY WINTHROP SHAW PITTMAN LLP

Date: February 21, 2006

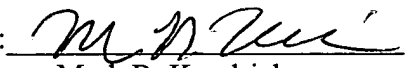
By: 

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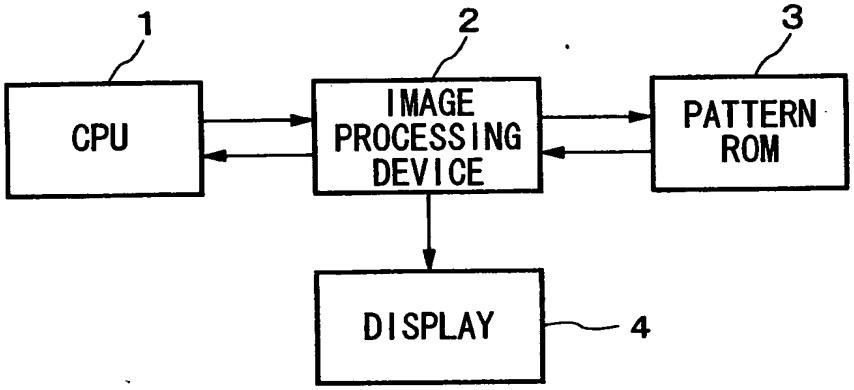
FIG. 7



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